

**CLAIMS OF THE INVENTION****I Claim:****1.(amended) A football measuring device, comprising**

**a handle having a base and a leg upstanding from the base a distance of approximately 4 inches, which corresponds to the distance from the ground to approximately the center of the nose of the football, said handle having a major axis along the base perpendicular to the yard lines and not parallel as some other devices are; a chain segment having an end secured to the base of the handle through an aperture in a lower section of the leg adjacent the base;**

**an extending bar releasably secured to an upper section of the leg away from the base, said bar extending parallel to the ground; and wherein said handle, said upright leg, said extending bar or any other part of the device does not have any dials, numbers or any sort of markings to designate where the device is at on the field.**

- 1. ~~A football measuring device, comprising a handle having a base and a leg—  
upstanding from the base a distance of approximately four inches (0' 4"), the  
distance from the ground to approximately the center of the nose of the football.  
The handle having a major axis along the base. The major axis is perpendicular  
to the yard lines and not parallel as some other past practice devices are; A  
chain segment having an end secured to the football measuring device; and an  
extending bar releasably secured to the leg that is upstanding from the base and  
extends parallel to the ground. The handle, upright leg, extending bar or any~~**

~~other part of the device does not have any dials, numbers or any sort of markings to designate where the device is at on the field.~~

2. (amended) A football measuring device according to claim 1 further comprising a removable alligator type clip placed on the chain segment to indicate the distance along the chain length the extending bar is from the closest yard line.

- 2 ~~A football measuring device according to claim 1 further comprising a removable clip, such as an alligator clip, placed on the chain segment to indicate the distance the forward nose of the football is from the closest yard line. This clip is not a clamp or other such object that is used to hold or secure several parts of the device together, as in other inventions in this category. The clip is not used for the purpose of rotating one part of this device with another part of this device, the present invention. As the present invention uses a chain pulled taut to determine the position of the football in regard to a yard line, there is no need for any telescoping or elongated parts of any kind necessary. The clip being used is not an integral part of the invention. It is merely a convenient method of setting a distance, along the chain, to the extending bar. The clip can be replaced by any method, which would designate a particular place along the chain. It could be replaced by a piece of string tied around the chain at that same position as the clip. A clip is just a more convenient and quicker way to set the distance from the extending bar.~~
3. (amended) A method for determining the position of a football on a football playing field having a pair of sidelines connected by a series of five-yard lines

and employing a conventional measuring device consisting of a first and second marker connected by a ten-yard long chain, the method comprising

positioning a first marker of the conventional measuring device at a position on a sideline corresponding to the position of the football on the field;

positioning a football measuring device adjacent the first marker, the football measuring device comprising

a handle having a base and a leg upstanding from the base, the handle having a major axis;

a chain segment having an end secured to the handle; and an extending bar releasably secured to the leg perpendicular to the major axis of the handle;

the extending bar being positioned against the first marker;

stretching the chain segment taut in the direction of the five-yard line nearest to the position of the football, and

placing an alligator type clip on the chain segment at a position corresponding to the nearest five-yard line.

- 3 ~~A method for determining the position of a football on a football playing field—~~  
~~having a pair of sidelines, connected by a series of yard lines, and employing a~~  
~~conventional measuring device consisting of a first and second marker connected~~  
~~by a ten-yard long chain. The method comprising positioning the first marker of~~  
~~the conventional measuring device at a position on a sideline corresponding to~~  
~~the position of the football on the field; positioning a football measuring device~~  
~~comprising a handle having a base and a leg upstanding from the base, the~~

~~handle having a major axis; a chain segment having an end secured to the~~  
~~measuring device; and an extending bar releasably secured to the leg~~  
~~perpendicular to the major axis of the measuring device; the extending bar being~~  
~~positioned against the first marker; stretching the chain segment taut in the~~  
~~direction of the yard line nearest to the position of the football, and placing a clip~~  
~~on the chain segment at a position corresponding to the nearest five-yard line.~~

4. (amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising

moving the ball measuring device proximate the football,  
aligning the alligator type clip with a second five-yard line  
corresponding to and ten yards distant from the first yard line;  
stretching the chain segment taut parallel to the sideline; and  
inspecting the position of the football with respect to the extending  
bar.

- 4 ~~The method of claim 3, further comprising moving the ball measuring device~~  
~~proximate the football, aligning the clip with a second yard line corresponding to~~  
~~and ten yards distant from the first yard line; Stretching the chain segment taut~~  
~~parallel to the sideline; and inspecting the position of the football with respect to~~  
~~the extending bar. There is no measuring tape attached or a part thereof to the~~  
~~present invention or other indices as with some prior inventions. The present~~  
~~invention does not have any rotational parts nor do any of the parts telescope or~~  
~~rotate over or under any other parts of the present invention. The main idea of~~  
~~the present invention is to locate the position of the football, in regard to a yard~~

~~line, in the most expedient manner. This is easier accomplished when having to~~  
~~read and remember or set numbers on a tape or dial is avoided.~~

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